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Securities and Exchange Commission Office of International Corporate Finance Judiciary Plaza 450 Fifth Street, N.W. USA - Washington, D.C. 20549



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Direct Phone +41 (0) 625 22 56 Direct Fax +41 (0) 625 36 06 irene.klauer@zurich.com Dear Sirs

Enclosed herewith please find the English version of the following press release:

"Rolf Hüppi to resign as Chairman" dated April 19, 2002

Should there be any queries or comments please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely Zurich Financial Services Legal Departement

Irene Klauer

Enclosure

DU 429



File No. 82-5089

Rolf Hüppi to resign as Chairman

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Phone +41 (0)1 625 21 00 Fax +41 (0)1 625 26 41 media.info@zurich.com http://www.zurich.com Zurich, April 19, 2002 - Zurich Financial Services announced today that Rolf Hüppi intends to resign as Chairman and Member of the Board of Directors following the forthcoming Annual General Meeting and upon the appointment of a new Chief Executive Officer.

As announced earlier Zurich intends to appoint a new CEO by mid-year 2002. Rolf Hüppi adds: "I have informed the Board of Directors that I consider it desirable and important that the new leadership of our Group can be established unencumbered by the ongoing public controversy surrounding me. Therefore, I shall, following the appointment of the new CEO, also step down as Chairman and will resign from the Board of Directors although my term of office does not expire until the Annual General Meeting in 2003. I remain very confident that Zurich is well positioned to master its future challenges."

The Board of Directors intends to appoint its current Vice Chairman Lodewijk van Wachem, subject to his re-election at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting, as its new Chairman.

The Zurich Financial Services Group (www.zurich.com) provides its customers solutions in the areas of financial protection (non-life insurance and structured solutions) and asset gathering (life insurance and asset management). The Group focuses its activities on its key markets of North America, UK and Continental Europe. Founded in 1872, Zurich is headquartered in Zurich, Switzerland. It has offices in more than 60 countries and employs approximately 70,000 people.



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